

Learning and Teaching Scotland



Press Release

24 September 2008

SCOTLAND'S TEACHERS GATHER FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

THOUSANDS of Scotland's teachers gathered in Glasgow today for the ninth Scottish Learning Festival.

The conference is the pivotal event in the Scottish education calendar offering teachers the chance to view the latest developments in education and showcase the best of what's going on in our classrooms.

Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, opened this year's event telling delegates it is a key year for Scottish education.

Ms Hyslop said: 'This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for all of you to shape teaching and education in Scotland. We owe it to our young people and to the future success of Scotland to each play our part in Curriculum for Excellence.

'I believe that today we can achieve our ambitions for the success of our education system. Together we can achieve our ambitions for the future success of our children. And I believe that together we can achieve our ambitions for the futures success of our nation.'

More than 7000 educationalists will attend the two-day event at Glasgow's SECC.

The event is organised by Learning and Teaching Scotland, the lead body for the development of the curriculum in Scotland, in partnership with the Scottish Government and Emap.

The festival is considered to be one of the best education conferences in Europe and attracts delegates from as far as New Zealand, Pakistan, Bahrain and Australia as well as Sweden, Norway and Germany to view the best of Scottish education.

Teachers and local authorities across Scotland showcased some of the most innovative work currently taking place in Scottish schools alongside speeches by world-renowned speakers such as OECD rapporteur Richard Teese, Charles Leadbeater and Ellen Moir.

The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning Fiona Hyslop, Minister for Schools and Skills Maureen Watt and Minister for Early Years

Adam Ingram all visited the festival.

Bernard McLeary, Chief Executive of Learning and Teaching Scotland said:
'The Scottish Learning Festival is the biggest CPD event for teachers in Britain and one of the largest events of its kind in Europe. It offers educationalists the opportunity to find out the latest developments in education and take that back to the classroom and make a lasting impact on the learning and teaching of our children and young people.

'*Curriculum for Excellence* aims to inspire teachers and encourage them to be innovative in their approach and the festival is an excellent opportunity for educationalists to hear from world-renowned speakers, engage with each other and discuss how they make learning and teaching more active and relevant for modern life.'

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Notes to Editors:

- 1 Images are available on request.
- 2 The Scottish Learning Festival is organised by Learning and Teaching Scotland, funded by the Scottish Government